

Date: July 25, 2005

To: Gerald R. Miller, City Manager

From: Katherine Parsons, Public Information Officer

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: City Report For Week Ending July 25, 2005

The following weekly update highlighting various activities for the week ending July 25, 2005 is provided for your information. I hope you will find this information useful. Please feel free to contact my staff should you have any questions.

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau

More than 200 neighborhood leaders attended the *7th Annual Neighborhood Leadership Program Conference* at California State University, Long Beach on July 16. The goal of the conference was to provide an opportunity for residents to enhance their leadership skills and knowledge, and to learn of resources available to assist them as they work to improve their neighborhoods and the community of Long Beach. A resource faire featuring information tables hosted by more than 30 City and community agencies proved very helpful.

SEA FESTIVAL 2005

Parks, Recreation and Marine

The third of three Transpacific Yacht Race departures from Rainbow Harbor took place on July 17. Daily race updates can be read at www.longbeach.gov or by viewing the updated destination map at Gladstone's in Rainbow Harbor.

More that 1,200 people watched the Kahaki Outrigger Races at 1st Place Beach on July 16.

Community Development, Housing Services Bureau

On July 18, construction financing closed for the Olive Court development, 1856 Long Beach Boulevard. Olive Court will feature 58 condominiums with up to 4-bedrooms to be sold to very low-income, low-income, moderate-income, and market-rate homebuyers. Livable Places Inc. will develop the project, with assistance by the Long Beach Housing Development Company. Construction of this mixed-income, transit-oriented housing development will begin immediately and last for up to 18 months.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Police and Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau

A Neighborhood Safety Fair will be held at Washington Middle School on **July 23**, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Free steering wheel locks will be distributed to residents who live in the 14th Street Park area and own a vehicle that is prone to theft, such as a late model Toyota or Honda. Food and refreshments will be served and Herbie the talking police car will be on display.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Programs Bureau

On **July 23**, the Long Beach Senior Center will host the Orange County Food Bank. Between 500-600 eligible participants will receive a 40-pound box of staple goods and two pounds of cheese. This free monthly program is available to seniors 60 years of age and older, and women with children under the age of six who are not in the Women and Infant Care Program.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Police

One Block Captain and two Neighborhood Watch Groups were presented Chief's Citations in recognition for their involvement in improving and promoting neighborhood safety. The awards were given at a BBQ held on July 20 to show appreciation to residents who are part of the Neighborhood Watch Program.

Police and Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau

On July 18, more than 20 residents of the MacArthur Park Neighborhood Improvement Strategy Area met with Commander Keith Kilmer at the Anaheim Street Community Police Center to discuss solutions to some of the crime in their neighborhood.

Fire

The Fire Department responded to a total of 1,479 emergency calls for service: 97 calls for fires, of which 14 involved structures; and 715 emergency medical calls, of which 485 required paramedics.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Police

The Long Beach Arts Council is currently displaying an exhibition of photographs in the Police Department's Community Room. Students at the Freeman Police Athletic League contributed the photographs on display.

Library Launches Online Book Club

So many books, so little time! The Long Beach Public Library has just made life easier for readers - an Online Book Club. Each day, Monday through Friday, the Library emails subscribers a portion of one book that takes about five minutes to read. By Friday, readers have read two or three chapters from a book during the week.

If you like a book, you can check it out of the library. New books are featured every week. Find out more on Library's home page, www.lbpl.org, or call 570-7500.

NEIGHBORHOODS (continued)

Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau

On July 18, more than 25 residents attended the *Youth Programs in Long Beach* workshop. Representatives from the Parks, Recreation and Marine's Youth After-School and Outreach Programs, Long Beach Public Library's Youth Services, Police Athletic League, Workforce Development's Youth Opportunity Center and Long Beach Job Corps provided information and materials about their services for young people. Workshop participants networked and discussed how they could collaborate to develop future programs for youth.

Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau

An Anti-Litter Campaign Workshop was held on July 13, and more than 25 residents learned what the City is doing to address the litter problem and what they can do to make Long Beach cleaner. Environmental Services representatives discussed Litter Abatement programs including the *Adopt-a-Street* and *No Litter Zone*, and the www.litterfreelb.org. Website. Residents shared ideas on how to reduce litter, and how to enforce and strengthen anti-litter laws.

On July 14, staff made a presentation at the monthly meeting of the Grant School Chapter of the North Long Beach Neighborhood Association. The group learned about the many programs, services, matching grants, and training available from the Neighborhood Services Bureau, as well as information about the Neighborhood Enhancement Area programs.

Staff joined the Future Generations Youth Center in creating a video designed to educate teens about the dangers of drinking and driving. The video will be distributed to instructors of high school drivers' education classes to use as part of the curriculum. The video was made as a result of the *You Lose* performance that was held at Jordan High School in May. This project was supported by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety.

On July 14, there was a special graduation at the Wilmore Community Police Center recognizing 18 families for their successful completion of the *Partners in Print and Raising a Reader* programs that are both designed to encourage parents and children to spend time reading together. This program is a partnership between the Neighborhood Services Bureau, the Long Beach Unified School District and the Long Beach Public Library Foundation.

During the month of June, staff from the Anaheim Street Community Police Center visited the business owners on Anaheim Street, from Atlantic Ave. to Temple Ave., to promote City programs and encourage business owners to report crimes. The Litter Abatement Program representative from Environmental Services also assisted with the outreach to encourage the business owners to keep their business litter free.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Maintenance Operations Bureau

Beach Operations staff constructed sand berms on the peninsula inner bay for the 7'2" high tide on Wednesday, July 20 and Thursday, July 21.

NEIGHBORHOODS (continued)

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Planning and Development Bureau

The ADA handrails have been installed at DeForest Park, completing the 13 projects that comprised Phase 1 of the City's ADA park improvements.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Enrichment Programs Bureau

On July 21, 60 children participated in *Rancho Afternoons*, a Thursday afternoon program at Rancho Los Cerritos. The children toured the parlor and Harry's room to explore the types of games and books he used 130 years ago, played games on the lawn, and made a flipbook, thaumatropes (an optical toy), and kites. Rancho staff, working with teen volunteers, coordinates the six-week program and supplies are underwritten by a grant from the Public Corporation for the Arts.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Programs Bureau

More than 1,200 youth participated in *Summer Fun Days And Day Camp Programs*. Participating youth were treated to outdoor games, arts and crafts, snacks, sports, scavenger hunts, tournaments, and field trips to Seal Beach, California Bowl, Camp Snoopy at Knott's Berry Farm, Wild Rivers in San Dimas, and to see the play "Guys & Dolls" at the Carpenter Center.

Fire

Fire Ambassadors and Firefighters took the Fire Safety House Program to third grade students at Lafayette and Burbank Elementary School and taught them the basics of fire safety.

Firefighter's participated in *Career Day* held at Franklin Middle School to talk about careers in public safety, firefighting and emergency medicine.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

My Career Site Kiosk Now Available at Main Library

An exciting new service that will open up new opportunities for local job seekers, the *My Career Site* kiosk, is located on the plaza level of the Main Library in the Electronic Information Center. Job seekers can access thousands of job openings in the Los Angeles and San Bernardino areas, and have the announcements printed or sent to a personal email account. This service is offered by the Los Angeles Newspaper Group (which includes the Press-Telegram) and the jobs listed are from the Sunday and daily employment sections of local newspapers. There is no charge for this service. In less than one month, 365 people have used the kiosk and over 1,300 jobs have been viewed. For additional information, please call the Library at 570-7500.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Special Events and Filming Bureau

The L.A. Calendar Motorcycle Show 2005, with an estimated attendance of 7,000, was held in the Queen Mary Events Park on July 16 and 17.

MTV Networks filmed a TV show *Meet the Barkers* on July 19 at the Aquarium of the Pacific.

OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE

Financial Management, Commercial Services Bureau

In June, the Bureau had 24,460 customer contacts, which is in line with the 24,625 eight-month average through May. Services include receiving payments for utility bills, business licenses, parking citations and various other services, in addition to providing information to customers, resolving complaints and answering a variety of questions.

Long Beach Energy

Staff completed a total of 3,079 service calls. This total included 867 Gas and Water Utility Turn Ons, and 790 Turn Offs. During this period, 1,217 Customer Service Orders were completed for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 205 meter maintenance and billing-related orders were completed. In addition, Gas Control/Dispatch (24/7 operation) received 369 emergency phone calls that resulted in 87 emergency orders being sent out.

Installation of gas lines at Del Amo Blvd., from Long Beach Blvd. to Locust Ave., was completed, and installation of gas lines at Wardlow Rd., between Maine and Magnolia Aves., continues.

Public Works, Engineering Bureau Street Construction Projects Currently in the Design Phase

Cherry Avenue, Spring to 32nd
Cherry Avenue, North city limits to Harding
10th Street, Cherry to Orange
Redondo Avenue, Ocean to 2nd
20th Street, Harbor to Easy
25th Street, Santa Fe to Adriatic
Harbor Avenue, PCH to 20th
Spring Street, Temple to Redondo
Spring Street, Redondo to Lakewood Blvd
Stearns Street, Clark to Bellflower
10th Street, Redondo to Ximeno
Carson Street, Bellflower to 605 Fwy.
Lakewood Boulevard, Outer Traffic Circle to Willow
Magnolia Avenue, Ocean to 3rd

Groups 3 & 4, Citywide Local Street Program, includes constructing concrete curbs, gutters and sidewalks; constructing asphalt concrete pavement on aggregate base and resurfacing with asphalt rubber pavement; doing all necessary excavation and grading and installing pavement markers, markings and traffic striping.

Construction Projects

Long Beach Airport: In-pavement guard light at intersection of Taxiways B, D & K, new Taxilane Hotel at west end of runway 7R-25L, and reconstruction of Taxilane J at east end.

OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE

Public Works, Engineering Bureau (continued)
Street Construction Projects To Be Awarded

7th Street, Junipero to Redondo Clark Street, Spring to Wardlow Anaheim Street, Alamitos to Ximeno

Street Construction Projects Currently Under Construction

Willow Street, West city limits to Santa Fe, Clark to Bellflower, and Studebaker to East City Limits
Spring Street, Long Beach to Atlantic
Long Beach, Ellis to Artesia
Downtown Bikeway Connection
2nd Street Bridge Painting, Marine Stadium
Orange Avenue, Spring to 405 Fwy.
Citywide Local Street Program, Group 1
Citywide Local Street Program, Group 2

Construction Projects

Long Beach Airport: Generator and electrical service upgrade, replacement canopy over north baggage claim area, and temporary canopy over south baggage claim area

Public Works, Engineering Bureau, Street Maintenance Division

During the month of June, staff accomplished the following:

- Trimmed 1,406 trees
- Removed 75 stumps
- Completed 68 applications of beneficial insects to street trees
- Repaired 4,667 street potholes (estimate)
- Repaired 738 alley potholes (estimate)
- Replaced 4,540 sq. feet of sidewalk

GRM: KP: arc

cc:

Christine Shippey, Assistant City Manager Reginald Harrison, Deputy City Manager Suzanne Mason, Deputy City Manager City Manager Department Heads Tom Modica, Manager, Government Affairs Jyl Marden, City Council Liaison